

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: Hiroki Hibino et al. **Examiner:** Unassigned
Serial No.: Unassigned **Art Unit:** Unassigned
Filed: Herewith **Docket:** 19444
For: CULTURE TREATMENT APPARATUS
AND AUTOMATIC CULTURE APPARATUS **Dated:** December 20, 2005

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98, it is requested that the following references, which are also listed on the attached Form PTO-1449, be made of record in the above-identified case.

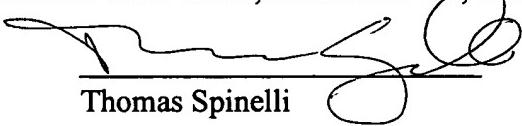
1. Japanese Patent Application Publication No. 2002-320411, dated November 5, 2002, together with English-language Abstract;
2. Japanese Patent Application Publication No. 05-184348, dated July 27, 1993, together with English-language Abstract;

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING BY EXPRESS MAIL

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Date of Deposit: December 20, 2005

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service Express Mail Post Office to Addressee service under 37 C.F.R. §1.10 on the date indicated above and is addressed to the Commissioner For Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.



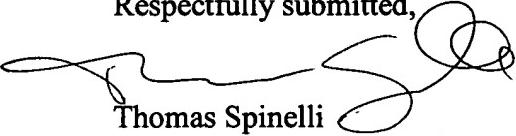
Thomas Spinelli

3. Japanese Patent Application Publication No. 03-240478, dated October 25, 1991, together with English-language Abstract; and
4. Japanese Unexamined Patent Application, First Publication No. 2002-262856, dated September 17, 2002, together with English-language Abstract.

The references were cited in the International Search Report of a corresponding International PCT Application. Applicants are submitting copies of the above-cited references, together with a copy of the Search Report. The relevance of the above-identified references has been described in the Search Report. The relevance of reference number 4 has also been described in the specification.

Inasmuch as this Information Disclosure Statement is being submitted in accordance with the schedule set out in 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b), no statement or fee is required

Respectfully submitted,



Thomas Spinelli
Registration No. 39,533

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TS:jam

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION
(Use several sheets if necessary)

Docket Number (Optional)

19444

Application Number

Unassigned

107561648

IAP9 Rec'd PCT/PTO 20 DEC 2005

Hiroki Hibino et al.

Applicant(s)

Filing Date

Herewith

Group Art Unit

Unassigned

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

| *EXAMINER INITIAL | REF | DOCUMENT NUMBER | DATE | NAME | CLASS | SUBCLASS | FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE |
|-------------------|-----|-----------------|------|------|-------|----------|----------------------------|
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FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

| | REF | DOCUMENT NUMBER | DATE | COUNTRY | CLASS | SUBCLASS | TRANSLATION | |
|--|-----|-----------------|------------|---------|-------|----------|-------------|----|
| | | | | | | | YES | NO |
| | | 2002-320411 | 11/5/2002 | Japan | | | | |
| | | 05-184348 | 7/27/1993 | Japan | | | | |
| | | 03-240478 | 10/25/1991 | Japan | | | | |
| | | 2002-262856 | 9/17/2002 | Japan | | | | |
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OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

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EXAMINER

DATE CONSIDERED

EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.